THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The works are in various stages of pre-constraction activities, hence the date of commencement of construction can not be indicated.

Development of Ports

5444. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether port-wise plan has been formulated for development in Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the fund estimated for development of Paradeep Port in that plan period; and

(c) the details of the amount released so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An outlay of Rs. 1200 crores has been approved for development of Paradeep Port during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) In the first three years of Ninth Plan, an expenditure of Rs. 552.82 crores has been incurred by Paradeep Port Trust on their plan schemes.

Modernisation of National Highways

5445. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Highways span about 52010 Kms. throughout the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that these highways cater for about 40 per cent of the total road traffic;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these roads are in a poor state and in urgent need of broadening, repair and modernisation of safe standards; and

(d) if so, what are the Government plans and time frame for completion of the modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Efforts are being made to keep all national highways in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(d) A statement giving details of targets for the development of national highways during the 9th Five Year Plan is enclosed.

Statement

Physical targets for the Ninth Five Year Plan of most (Department of Road Transport & Highways)

(A) Through agencies other than NHAI:

SI. No.	Scheme	Unit	Ninth Plan Target (1997-2002) Km/Nos.
	Normal NH works		
1.	Widening to two lanes	Km.	1194
2.	Widening to four lanes	Km.	202
3.	Strengthening weak 2 lanes	Km.	2908
4.	Bypasses	No.	20
5.	Major Bridges	No.	40
6.	Minor Bridges including ROBs	No.	226
7.	Expressways	On very selective basis where traffic density is exceptionally high	

*The above Targets excludes the NHAI programme

(B) Through agency of NHAI

	Total length covered under the project	Length already four laned	On-going works/ under implemen-tation	LengUi to be awarded during IXthPlan
1 (a) Golden Quadri-lateral to Widening four/six lanes Km.	5952	504	716	4732

			Total length covered under the project	Length already four laned	On-going works/ under implemen-tation	Length to be awarded during IXth Plan
	(b) North-South & East-West Corridors Widening to four/six lanes	Km.	7300	628	264	366
	Total		13252	1132	980	5118
2.	Other Works by NHAI	Km.	1000	0	214	784

Construction of Rest areas in Andhra Pradesh on NHs

5446. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of land acquired by the National Highways Authority of India for construction of Rest Areas in the districts of Chittoor, Cuddapah, Anantapur, Kurnool and Nellore in Andhra Pradesh;

. (b) the extent of land thus acquired and the costs thereof;

(c) whether any uniform design has been evolved to build and construct such rest areas;

(d) if so, when the work will start for this facility;

(e) whether the private sector has been involved; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No land has been acquired by NHAI for construction of Rest Areas in these districts.

(c) NHAI envisages to introduce a few Rest Areas wherever NH widening on Golden Quadrilateral is planned. The design consultants are to identify such locations and provide design which are likely to vary ' depending upon many factors such as traffic demand, shape and size of land, cost of land etc.